Forests.—

Then the next item I have to deal with is Forests, which is demand No. 9 in the Preliminary Budget. About Forests much has been said, and I do not mean to speak in detail, since many points have been touched upon by my friends; but I have to speak one word more. Under this demand, we find an item "Stores and Elephants" at page 26, and another item "Elephant Vicharippus "at page 27. A person was deputed to be specialised in elephant capture, training and treatment. I would like to know whether he is in the department at present and what he has done for the department. The amounts allotted under these two heads seem to be too much.

The Tramway.—

Then, the next point is the Tramway demand. The Tramway, as many of my friends have suggested, may be abolished. It must be looked upon as a purely mercantile concern, unlike the administrative departments. When this department works at a loss, it is not to be mended but ended.

Jails.—

Then, about Jails, which is demand No. 16. We have got capital and labour. So the jails must be, as far as possible, made self-supporting, whereas here is a sum of money, in excess of the income, allotted for expenditure under this head.

Public Works.—

The next item I have to comment upon is the Public Works Department. The Talappalli Taluk is the part of the State which is very poor in public roads; and the income in the shape of tax and excise from that taluk is, I think, the highest. There had been many petitions to the Government for opening roads in this taluk, for instance, to Kandanasseri, to Kanippayyur, to Eyyal, etc. The whole taluk consists of hills and dales, and there are no public roads to important places; and no public officer visits these localities on account of the absence of roads.

Medical.—

Then, about the Medical Department. There is one Dispensary at Kuriarkutty that was established at

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the time when the Tramway was under construction; and I think, the Hon. Member on the other side will convince you, Sir, it is working with a very poor attendance. Reference to that member will convince you, Sir, that the average daily attendance to this Dispensary during fever season is about 10 to 15 and during other seasons about 3 to 5.

One difficulty that I met with in understanding the budget items is that large sums are classed under "Other charges" and "Miscellaneous". Those Departmental Heads would have done better if they had just mentioned the major items under these heads. A sum of one or two thousand rupees can be placed under the head 'Miscellaneous" or "Other works". But their treatment of them as "Other works" or "Miscellaneous" has landed us in a mystery.

Mr. E. IKKANDA WARIAR (*Urakam*).

Sir, I rise principally to thank His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin, on behalf of the constituency which I represent, for having given us the Legislative Council and an opportunity for discussing the budget. As regards the main principles, the policy of the Government is, as declared the other day, to keep the expenses within the income. That is a point which was declared from the Chair as the policy of the present Government, and I think it is a wholesome policy also. As most of the subjects have been elaborately discussed here, I wish to bring to your notice, Sir, only one or two facts which, to my mind, seem to be important, and which have not been sufficiently emphasised by the previous speakers. We must find out some way to keep the expenses within the income It would be a dangerous policy to tap new sources of income by imposing fresh taxes without ascertaining whether we could cut short our expenses. What do we do in our own homes when we find that our expenses are more than our actual income? What do we do? We cut short our luxuries first. I think the grant for the electric lighting at Mattanchery and such other items come under the category of luxuries. Then there are certain items which are of doubtful value, and it is better to give up such items.

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I will take the Tramway, for instance. It has been emphasised by most of the members as a waste. I also say it is a sheer waste. I am told that the Honourable Members are going to explain their position. I would ask one or two questions regarding the same. Why was this Tramway worked for so many years, although it has been found working at a loss all the time? We find from the Budgets of the previous years that not thousands but lakhs of rupees are spent upon it. Why should we do this? To my mind it is for nothing else than to show it to the world as a monument of our folly. It is not for anything else. I think a model of this Tramway is kept in the Trichur Museum. That will serve the same purpose. At this time we need not spend so much good money. I find from the Administration Reports of the previous years that the Tramway has been engaging the anxious consideration of the Government. They have been anxiously considering the question for the last 5 or 6 years. At the same time they have been spending lakhs of rupees—more than a lakh every year—without making themselves sure whether they could make any profit out of the Tramway. I may say that, if the present Government also is going to take much time for consideration, the best course is to suspend the working of the Tramway temporarily, so that we can save more than a lakh and a half in the coming year, which would cover the deficit. I think the House is entitled to know whether the Government expect anything from the Tramway by way of profit, and if so, when. There should be an explanation for the present condition of the Tramway, and I think this House is entitled to it.

Then, as regards Education, I may say that there are serious complaints in the matter of giving grants by the Education Department. I find that the total allotment for Education is more than 12 lakhs of rupees, of which Rs. 3,25,000 are given as grants-in-aid. I think we are very lavish in giving grants to educational institutions, and we often hear that some of the private educational authorities are growing fat at the Government expense.

Mr. C. MATTHAI (*Director of Public Instruction*).

No, no.

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Mr. E. IKKANDA WARIAR (*Urakam*).

He may say no. But I say it is an open secret also. It is an open secret that most of the teachers in aided schools are forced to give receipts for higher pay than they actually receive. New schools are allowed to be opened in places where there are Government schools, without any necessity. I shall take the instance of a school in a particular locality. There may be a High School there. There are cases in which aided schools are allowed to be built within two or three furlongs of the Government schools. The latter institution is conducted very efficiently, but the strength of the institution has been very seriously dwindled by the springing up of another institution close by, and this increasing competition creates a very unhealthy spirit detrimental to the interests of the State. The Government is also spending large amounts by way of building grants, equipment grants, salary grants, &c. I wish to bring these facts for the careful attention of the Director of Public Instruction. One more fact is worth mentioning here. Suppose, there are two teachers, one from the Government school and another from a private school, whose pays are on an incremental scale of Rs. 50—60. If the Sirkar teacher comes out from the Training College, he will get pay only on the incremental scale, say Rs. 52 or 54, as the case may be. The teacher from the aided school will, as soon as he completes his training, get Rs. 60, the maximum pay for the post. This places the teacher from the Sirkar school at a disadvantage. If this invidious distinction is removed, the department can reduce the expenses under grant-in aid considerably.

Mr. C. MATTHAI (*Director of Public Instruction*).

The aided school teacher doesn't get a pension at the end of that time.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar (*Urakam*).—The Director of Public Instruction can take these facts into consideration and cut down expenses to a great extent.

A word about the Medical Department. I would suggest that a portion of the amount can be usefully given for the starting of Ayurvedic Dispensaries. There are certain medicines whose efficacy is admitted even by Allopathic doctors. The Government would do well to encourage the Ayurvedic system of treatment

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and a larger amount may be allotted for the purchase of Ayurvedic medicines. They are less costly also. A small portion allotted may be given to Ayurvedic physicians for the encouragement of the Ayurvedic system of treatment.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ശങ്കരൻ നമ്പൂതിരി (ചെറുതുരുത്തി).

ഇപ്പോൾ വലിയ ഒരു സംഖ്യ ചിലവാക്കി ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഒരു കൃഷിത്തോട്ടം ഉണ്ടാക്കീട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതു ഒരു മാതൃകയായിട്ടാണു വെച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്. എന്നാൽ ഉൾനാട്ടിലുള്ളവർക്കു് ഇതു് വന്നുകാണുന്നതിനോ അതുപോലെ ചെയ്യുവാൻ അനുഭവം എടുക്കുന്നതിനോ സാധിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള ഒരു തോട്ടംകൊണ്ടു് ഉൾനാട്ടിലെ കൃഷിക്കാർക്കു് ഒരു പ്രയോജനവും ഇല്ല. ഇവിടെയുള്ള വിവരം പറഞ്ഞുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർമാരാണു്. അതു് അവർ ശരിയായി ചെയ്യുന്നതായി തോന്നുന്നില്ല. ദേവസ്വം ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിന്റെ കീഴിൽ ഉൾനാടുകളിൽ പല ദേവസ്വങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടു്. അങ്ങനെയുള്ള ദേവസ്വംവക ഭൂമികളിൽ മാതൃകയായിട്ടും ഓരോ തോട്ടങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടാക്കി കാണിച്ചുകൊടുത്താൽ കൊള്ളാം. അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യുന്നതു് ഉൾനാട്ടിലുള്ള പലർക്കും വളരെ ഗുണകരമായിത്തീരും

ഇനി മെഡിക്കൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിനെപ്പറ്റിയും രണ്ടുവാക്കു പറയാനുണ്ടു്. അതിലേക്കു് ആണ്ടിൽ രണ്ടേമുക്കാൽ ലക്ഷത്തോളം രൂപക്കു് ചിലവുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു് വെച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതിൽ പകുതിയിൽ അധികവും ശമ്പളം വകയ്ക്കാണു്. ഒരു ലക്ഷത്തി ഇരുപത്തായിരത്തിൽ ചില്വാനം രൂപ ശമ്പളം കൊടുക്കുന്നു. ശേഷം ഒരു ലക്ഷത്തി പതിനായിരം രൂപ മാത്രമേ ഔഷധികൾക്കുവേണ്ടി ചിലവഴിക്കുന്നുള്ളു. ഇതും പട്ടണങ്ങളിൽ ഉള്ളവർക്കു് ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുന്നുള്ളു. ഉൾനാടുകളിൽ ഉള്ളവർക്കു് ഇതുകൊണ്ടും പറയത്തക്ക ഗുണം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നില്ല. അതിനാൽ പഞ്ചായത്തുകൾ മൂലം ഉൾനാടുകളിൽ ആയുർവ്വേദാശുപത്രി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയാൽ കൊള്ളാം. സമയം കുറവാകയാൽ ഇത്രമാത്രം പറഞ്ഞു കൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ അവസാനിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Rao Sahib T. V. KASTURI RANGA AYYAR (*Diwan Peishkar*).

Mr. President, Sir,

I rise to avail myself of the opportunity so kindly allowed by you to Heads of Departments to explain to this House the salient points relating to their respective departments, touched upon by the non-official members in the general discussion of the budget, conducted during the last two days. So far as the Land Revenue Department is concerned, there are very few criticisms requiring explanation.

I must, at the outset, express my gratitude to the members of the Vyttila, Narakkal, Trippunittura and

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Muhammadan constituencies for bringing prominently to the notice of this House the inadequacy of the scales of pay at present drawn by the Village officers and the members of the subordinate executive and ministerial branches of all departments of administration. The Village officers are, as so eloquently described by the member for Trippunittura, the units of administration, and are looked upon by the rural population as the visible representatives of Government. They maintain, not only all the land registers and collect the bulk of the revenue of the State, but are also called upon from time to time to do all kinds of work, innumerable to be specified. They have to render help at all Panchayat elections, co-operate with the officers of the Agricultural Department in taking remedial measures against crop diseases, prepare electoral rolls and the like. Last year, when the whole country was devastated by abnormal floods, and life and property were in imminent danger, these officers rendered signal service to the public in the conduct of relief and rescue operations and the nature of the work done by them in that direction is known to the members of the House, most of whom come from the rural parts. I confess that I have to plead guilty to the charge, of being unkind to them, levelled against me by the member for Trippunittura. But my unkindness is not exactly in the direction pointed out by Mr. Rama Ayyar. I exact maximum work from them and find myself at the end of my tether to remunerating them adequately. To the charge of unkindness in the direction of not giving them a higher rate of pay, to which I cannot plead guilty, I am only in the position of a co-accused with others. The records will show that these officers had no better champion of their cause than myself. Two years ago, I even made a permanent increase of revenue of over Rs. 10,000 per annum, and earmarked it for improving the scale of pay of these officers. But, owing to financial exigencies and other causes, the Government of that time were not able to see eye to eye with me in this respect. But the House need not despair. It cannot but be recognised that these officers form one of the most vital parts in the administrative machinery of the State; and I am sure that, when the time comes for overhauling the machinery as a whole and remodelling

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it to suit the requirements of a progressive people, the cause of these officers will receive due consideration and the attention that it deserves from the powers that be. Sooner or later, an enquiry into the conditions of the public services, of the nature so lucidly outlined by the member for Mulankunnattukavu and those for other constituancies will inevitably have to be undertaken, and if there is any class of officers whose conditions in regard to pay will have to be improved, it is firstly, the village officers and secondly, the ministerial and subordinate establishments of all departments.

Some of the members have brought to the notice of this House the necessity for improving the economic conditions of the agricultural population, and have also laid stress on the need for the extension and improvement of irrigation facilities, as a first step towards development. The interests of the Government and the House are identical in the important matter of economic development. The question is one of deep concern to Government and has not failed to receive attention. Most of the members of this House may remember the terrible crisis that we passed through, five years ago, consequent on the shortage of rice available for consumption. As the chief Revenue Officer of the State, one of whose main duties is to keep himself in touch with the needs and requirements of the agricultural population, and to bring them to the notice of Government, I submitted proposals for the formation of an Economic Development Board and an Economic Development Fund, in pursuance of the general policy laid down by Government soon after we got out from the immediate effects of the economic depression of 1094-1095. My proposals involve the separation of the finances of development heads, like Land Revenue, Capital, Agriculture, Fisheries, Co-operation, Industries, Irrigation and Forests and other ordinary heads, and the utilisation of the former entirely for development works and the latter for the carrying on of every-day administration.

I had them formulated a programme of irrigation works for five years and for financing them. Another proposal of the members relates to the co-ordination of the activities of all development departments and the

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placing of them under the control of one agency. These proposals are now before Government, and I am sure that criticisms made by the members of the House regarding this will receive due consideration at the hands of Government.

Another criticism that I have to explain to this House is that about Travelling Allowance. There seems to be an impression among most of the non-official members of the House that we, the officers, consume a lot of money in the shape of Travelling Allowance, make huge profit out of it, and that the expenditure under this head is capable of material reduction. If you examine the Preliminary Budget presented by the Finance Member, you will find that the total expenditure under Travelling Allowance is Rs. 1,50,895, as detailed below :—

Major Heads.	Departments.	Amount.
1.	Land Revenue	Rs. 20,000
2.	Agriculture & Panchayats	4,670
3.	Co-operative Societies	3,000
6.	Excise	8,000
7.	Stamps	180
8.	Customs	45
9.	Forests	8,000
10.	Tramway	650
11.	Registration	3,000
12.	Anchal	1,500
13.	General Administration	4,000
	Sarvadhikariakkar's Office	1,200
	Special Palace Office	70
	Legislative Council	7,500
14.	Accounts & Finance	3,800
15.	Law & Justice	
	Law Department	200
	Civil Justice	5,350
	Criminal Justice	3,900
16.	Jail	100
17.	Police	17,500
18.	Education	28,905
21.	Medical	2,115
22.	Vaccination	950
23.	Sanitation & Conservancy	2,000
24.	Stationery & Printing	15
26.	Military	2,800
27.	Public Works	18,355
29.	Scientific, etc., Department	2,630
31.	Miscellaneous	340
	Total ...	Rs. 1,50,895

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The Education Department comes first with Rs. 28,905, then Land Revenue with Rs. 20,000, the Public Works Department with Rs. 18,355 and Police with Rs. 1,75,000. The House will concede that it is the officers of these four important departments who have to tour constantly and be in touch with the people, and that any interference with their inspection work will seriously prejudice public interests and affect the efficiency of the administration of the respective departments.

I assure this House that only between 25 and 30% of this amount of Rs. 1,50,895 relates to the travelling allowance of Heads of Departments, their immediate executive subordinates and other officers appointed by Government, while the remaining three-fourths represent the allowance paid to subordinate officers, such as clerks, Revenue Inspectors, Police Sub-Inspectors, Village officers, Constables, Petty Officers and the like. The provisions of the Land Revenue and other departmental Manuals as well as the Standing Orders of Government require that a certain amount of inspection and touring work should be done by the Heads of Departments and their immediate executive subordinates. In addition to normal or ordinary inspection work falling on officers, they have off and on to attend to urgent calls for personal enquiry and inspection The allotments under Travelling Allowance provide only for the journeys and halts that are absolutely necessary for the proper discharge of the duties entrusted to various officers. So, if we interfere with the rates of Travelling Allowance, it is the lower rank of the services that will be hard hit. Even now, clerks drawing Rs. 50 get only annas 8 per diem and peons only annas 4. These rates are barely sufficient to get two meals a day when clerks and peons are in camp. Reduction of Railway fares drawn by the first class and second class officers from double first and second class fares to 1½ times the fare is not likely to result in effecting much savings. Heads of Departments alone have to travel throughout the State, and even they have actually to travel by Railway, ordinarily only from Trichur to Ernakulam, and occasionally to Palghat when they go to Chittur. Their work lies mainly in rural parts. In the case of short journeys,

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if any, undertaken by Railway, the daily allowance interchanged for Railway fare is in excess of double first or second class fare, as the case may be. Further, there are some second class officers who have very rarely to undertake Railway journeys. For instance, the Tahsildar of Chittur has no Railway journey to perform in his taluk. Our Travelling Allowance rules follow Tranvancore rules more than the British rules. In the Madras Presidency, the number of officers drawing first class allowances is very many, and the distances to be travelled by Railway cover in some cases three or four hundreds of miles. I shall not be taxing the patience of this House, if I refer briefly to the rules in British India and Travancore—

British Rules.	*Travancore Government Rules.*
(i)	
Railway fare. Officers on pay of above Rs. 60.	
One and three-fifths of the class to which they belong.	
(ii)	
Officers on Rs. 60 and below.	Double the fare of the classes to which they belong.
One and three-fourths of the class to which they belong.	
(iii)	
For journeys to be performed to and from head-quarters on the same day.	
One and three-tenths fares for all.	
No difference in the case of inferior servants—single third class.	
Mileage and daily allowance.	No difference in rates practically.
Railway journey and road journey on the same day. Mileage for all distances travelled in continuation of Railway journey is allowed without limit.	This is restricted to the amount of daily allowance

The reduction, in the Madras Presidency, ordered in respect of Railway fare is made owing to the long distances that have to be travelled there.

There are proposals before Government to revise the Travelling Allowance rules in conformity, as far as possible, with the fundamental rules obtaining elsewhere. When the time comes for enquiry into the conditions of the services, the question of the revision of our Travelling

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Allowance rules will necessarily come up for consideration, and I assure this House that we, Heads of Departments, will gladly submit ourselves to any reduction that may be decided upon eventually, but I would emphatically urge that the rates of Travelling Allowance of subordinate officers should not be interfered with except in the direction of substantially raising them. In conclusion, pending the general revision of the Travelling Allowance rules, the allotments provided for Travelling Allowance under all heads may remain as they are, unreduced. Any piecemeal or arbitrary reduction at this stage without taking up the question as a whole and arriving at a considered decision will paralyse the working of the administrative machinery.

Mr. C. MATTHAI (*Director of Public Instruction*).

Mr. President—Sir,

Most of the non-official members who have spoken prefaced their remarks with an expression of gratitude to His Highness' Government for bringing into existence this Legislative Council, where they are afforded opportunities of making their views known to Government regarding matters of administration. As an official member of this body, I should like to say that I cordially reciprocate that feeling. We, the official members, welcome these opportunities of exchanging views, quite as much as our non-official friends do. I think it will help us to realise that wisdom is not a monopoly of the official side, and I dare say, some such realization will dawn on the minds of non-official members as well.

The First Grade College.—

To turn to matters connected with the department of which I am in charge, I find most of the criticisms of the non-official members were directed against the First Grade College, and therefore, that should first call for explanation on my part. It would seem from the remarks made by critics that the starting of a First Grade College in Cochin was a venture that was rushed into, in a fit of madness, as it were. I should like to briefly narrate the history of this affair to show that this was not the case. Ever since I came to be connected with this department, complaints from all sorts of people reached us that the Education

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